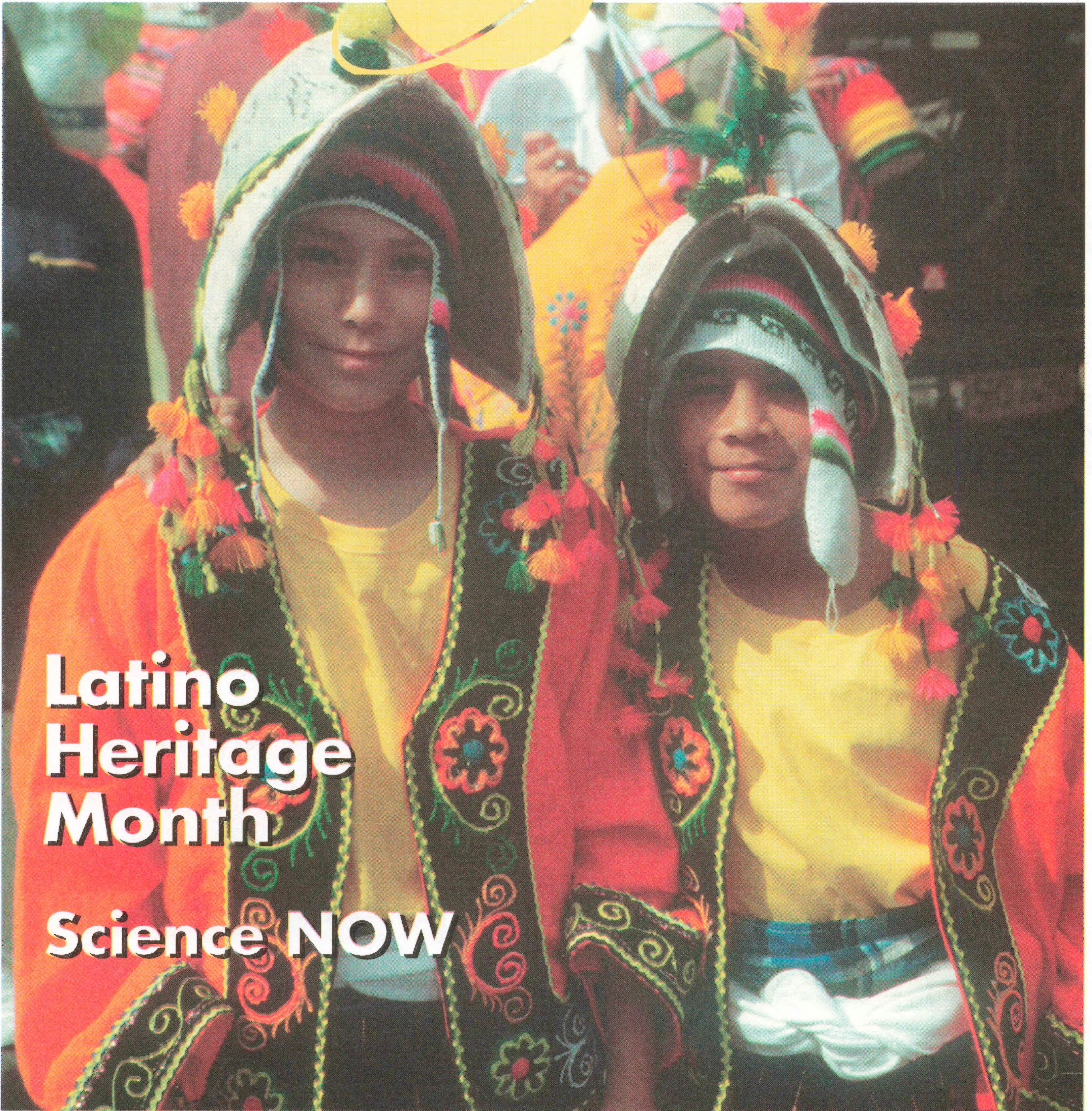


Academy

California Academy of Sciences' Member Newsletter

August/September 2000



**Latino
Heritage
Month**

Science NOW

To explore and explain the natural world

STEINHART AQUARIUM • MORRISON PLANETARIUM • NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Message to the Members

Luis Baptista was among the most charismatic colleagues any scientist could wish for. Lively, innovative, humorous, and smart, here at the Academy he was a star among stars. The news of his death, so sudden and so unexpected, was a deep shock to all of us. Luis was a world-renowned ornithologist and

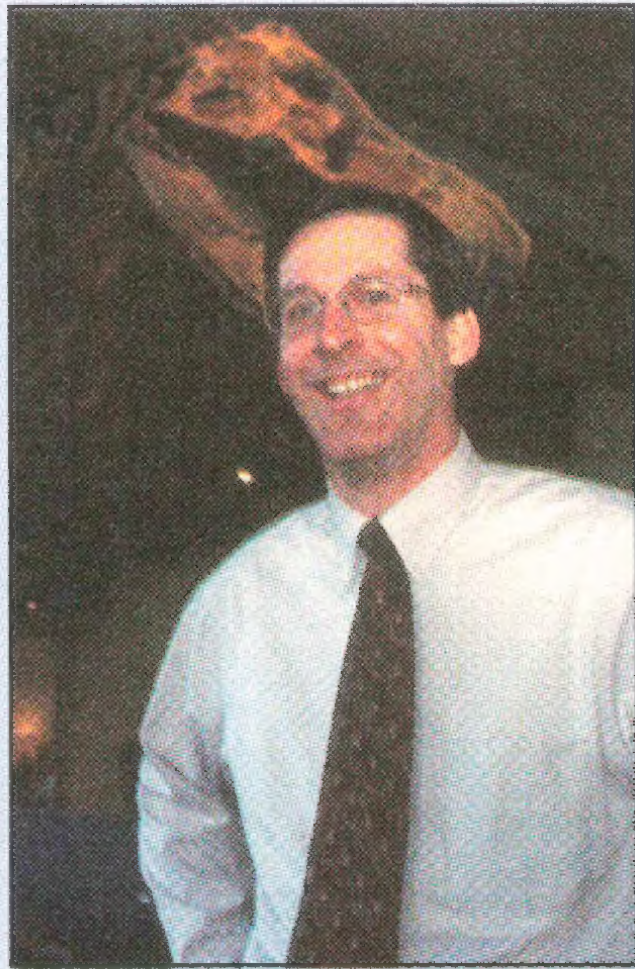


PHOTO: DONG LIN
Dr. Patrick Kociolek

evolutionary biologist, who made fundamental contributions to our understanding of bird communication and vocalization. He served the Academy as its curator and chair of Birds and Mammals since 1981, and his loss will be profoundly felt throughout the institution and by the world's scientific community.

Our sympathy goes out to his dear partner, Helen Horblit; his daughter, Laura; his mother, Thelma; and other family members.

Last year, as part of our new resolve to widen the audience of the Academy, we organized our first Latino Heritage Month. It was a wonderful success. So this year, in September/October, we will hold our second celebration. Many of the events will focus on the culture of our southern neighbors, including demonstrations of cuisine, cinema, and dance. But we will also feature talks on ethnobotany, the wild cats of the Americas, and the marine life of Central America.

Following the recent passage of Proposition B earlier this year, and the prior passage, five years ago, of Proposition C which authorized funds, still unspent, to rebuild the Steinhart Aquarium, the Academy finds itself with an opportunity that comes around perhaps once a century. We have the chance to build an exciting, world-class institution.

It is an opportunity we plan to grasp with both hands. While maintaining the fundamental characteristics of the Academy—a museum, planetarium, aquarium and research establishment—we will create a building that will be stimulating both inside and out and a proud jewel of Golden Gate Park.

To do it right we will want your ideas and suggestions. We plan to invite members to a meeting at the Academy this Fall, when you can hear our plans—they are quite ambitious—and we can hear your thoughts.

RoundAbout

News from around the Academy

If you've ever wondered what an Academy entomologist or botanist might be looking for in Yunnan China or why their new discoveries are important to conservation efforts, many of your answers will be answered during your next visit to the Academy. Near the Biodiversity Center in Cowell Hall, you'll find a new Science NOW Kiosk that features changing stories and exhibits each week to highlight important and timely science news. The Science NOW Kiosk will bring science news to life using photographs and natural history specimens from our vast collections and in the future, computers and video components will be added.

If you would like to delve deeper into the facts behind headline science news, learn about plants and animals that deserve special attention, or follow recent discoveries made by Academy researchers, don't miss this great new addition to the Academy.

In other news around the Academy, two important research projects have recently received funding. Brian Fisher, Assistant Curator of Entomology, has been awarded a three-year \$400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue his ongoing efforts to survey arthropod populations in Madagascar. His project, the Terrestrial Arthropod Inventory of Madagascar, will provide baseline data that is essential for developing conservation priorities that preserve biodiversity. In the Ichthyology Department, the Census of Marine Fishes: Definitive List of Species and Online Biodiversity Database, received \$500,000 over two years from the National Oceanographic Partnership Program and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Under the leadership of Bill Eschmeyer, Senior Curator and Chairman of Ichthyology, the project will provide an online world checklist of marine fishes, an online biodiversity database of fish occurrences, and software that will assist collection managers in improving the quality of information in their collection databases.



PHOTO: WEBER SHIH

Brent Jones and Yasmin Walz surrounded by creatures of the garden at the Academy's annual ball in May. More than 550 individuals attended "Gardens of Eden."

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Dr. Luis Baptista

On Friday June 12, the Academy lost its world-renowned teacher and researcher of avian behavior. At the age of 58, Dr. Luis Baptista died at his home in Sonoma County while he was observing the birds that he so dearly loved. As a distinguished Curator and Chairman of the Department of Birds and Mammals he will be sorrowfully missed by all his colleagues at the Academy. This writer has cherished his friendship for over thirty years.

Luis had a magical touch in hand-rearing wild birds for pleasure and research. His enthusiasm for bird song was reflected in his masterfully whistled imitations of their vocalizations with which he punctuated his fascinating lectures. I recall first meeting Luis in the 1960's when he was an enthusiastic member of the Academy's Junior Scientist program. His many thoughtful questions about my report on the songs of Darwin's finches prolonged the evening meeting well beyond the usual closing time. It was a stimulating experience for me and the other student members of the group.

After completing his bachelor's and master's degrees in biology at the University of San Francisco, he moved to the University of California, Berkeley, for doctoral studies in zoology. His thesis research concerned the song dialects of Bay Area populations of White-crowned Sparrows. One day he invited me to his

Berkeley apartment where the darkened living room was alive with the songs of caged birds being hand-reared for his study of song development. Indeed, Luis' life-long research remained focused on the relative roles of nature and nurture in shaping definitive adult songs in White-crowned Sparrows.

After completing his doctoral studies in 1971, Dr. Baptista spent the following two years as a Fellow at the Max Planck Institute in Germany where he became a professional colleague of some of Europe's leading animal behaviorists. Luis' fluency in spoken German, Spanish, Portuguese, Cantonese and English, coupled with his intense interest in avian biology and extrovert personality, greatly facilitated his rapid assimilation into the world's scientific communities.

Dr. Baptista held important academic appointments at the University of California, Berkeley, the Moore Laboratory of

Ornithology at Occidental College, and San Francisco State University. When, in 1980, a search began for a new Chairman and Curator of the Academy's Department of Birds and Mammals, I served as a member of the Search Committee. The vacancy attracted an array of talented people, but the most outstanding was clearly Luis. His subsequent performance

at the Academy, bringing honors and awards from around the country and abroad, are confirmation of the Selection Committee's unanimous decision.

Through the years Luis has greatly enhanced the scientific stature of the Academy through his public lectures, foreign travel

on research projects, his prolific publishing schedule, grantsmanship, coaching, and his concern for the survival of endangered bird species. He became closely involved with the environmental degradation surrounding the endemic dove of Socorro Island off Baja California. Fortunately, a few surviving individuals were found in aviculturists' collections. Working with Mexican biologists, Luis initiated an intensive breeding program in the hope of reintroducing the species to its rehabilitated homeland. Regrettably, Luis will never see the fruits of his

conservation efforts. For this pioneering work, he received a prestigious award from the Rolex Committee for Enterprise in the field of Conservation.

Dr. Baptista's research encompassed an array of ornithological topics, including nest parasitism; use of behavioral traits in tracing evolutionary relationships; learning and memory; interspecific hybridization; interspecific plumage color patterns and social dominance; photoperiodically induced ovarian growth in sparrows; the origin of Galapagos finches; permeability of skin and water balance in nestlings; the role of aviculture in science and conservation; the effect of testosterone in avian aggression and dominance; and most recently, a comparison of certain avian vocalizations with human musical themes. His avian subjects included European Starlings, House Finches, Gouldian and Silverbill finches,



PHOTO: CAROLYN KOPP, 19991



PHOTO: SUSAN MIDDLETON, 1983

August

No Storm is Perfect: The Evolving Science of Severe Weather

With Science Journalist Jeffrey Rosenfeld

Daredevil fliers, intrepid mariners, mathematical geniuses, mechanical tinkerers—brilliant, unsung scientists of all kinds have remade our understanding of storms. As a result, the



PHOTO: JEFFREY ROSENFELD

A violent twister.

typhoons and twisters that once mystified humanity are now modeled with precision in supercomputers and often predicted with great accuracy.

Nonetheless, scientists still don't know just how a tornado forms. They can't tell when a hurricane may suddenly turn one way or the other. They still argue about what makes a snowstorm erupt into a blizzard. When it comes to storms, every forecast is a potential bust and nearly every theory is in flux. In addition, increasingly detailed understanding of catastrophic winds puts today's meteorologists face-to-face with perplexing questions that their predecessors never anticipated. The perfect storms—and foolproof forecasts—imagined by theorists a century ago remain as elusive as ever.

Rosenfeld will introduce us to the colorful history of science of storms. He has specialized in weather for nearly 15 years, and will show why the latest findings of storm chasers and computer modelers leave researchers more awed than ever by the complexity and power of storms.

Rosenfeld is author of the book *Eye of the Storm: Inside the World's Deadliest Hurricanes, Tornadoes, and Blizzards*, and is a contributing editor of *Weatherwise* magazine. He has co-authored books for National Geographic and the Discovery Channel and writes about meteorology for *Scientific American Presents* as well as the National Science Foundation.

August 9 2 pm & 7:30 pm
Morrison Auditorium
Book-signing to follow lecture.

September

Chasing Snakes in Burma: Herpetology in the Golden Land

With Assistant Academy Curator of Herpetology,
Dr. Joe Slowinski

Despite a recent policy of opening up to the outside world, Burma (Myanmar) remains a remote and poorly known country. It is a visually stunning country, with numerous ancient Buddhist ruins, jungle-clad mountains, and diverse

hill tribes. It is also an excellent country for a herpetologist, abounding in numerous species of snakes, many of them venomous.

Join
Slowinski as he discusses his recent herpetological survey work in Burma. View images of this fascinating country and hear some stories of adventures associated with chasing cobras.

September 13 2 pm & 7:30 pm
Morrison Auditorium

The above lectures are FREE for Members as a benefit of your membership. Guests are \$10 per adult, \$5 for per child.



PHOTO: DONG LIN

Ancient Buddhist shrines near Pakokku.

Upcoming Lectures

Venomous Slugs of Costa Rica's Pacific Ocean

Terrence Gosliner, Ph.D., Provost & Senior Curator
California Academy of Sciences
October 11

Life Work of Clitso Deman

Rebecca M. Vallette, Ph.D.
November 7

BAPTISTA, cont. from pg. 3

grassquits, Mexican woodpeckers, hummingbirds, coots, cowbirds, Mannikins and Darwin's finches. He also investigated chromosomal evidence for relationships in Horned Lizards!

Luis' wide knowledge of birds of the world qualified him superbly to revise one of the most famous modern ornithology texts, *"The Life of Birds"* by Dr. J. C. Welty.

Luis had a brilliant mind, an encyclopaedic memory for facts and faces, and a warmth of personality that charmed all who visited his Academy quarters. His presence served as a magnet for visiting scientists and the lay public alike. The departure of Dr. Baptista from the halls of science at the Academy and universities is deeply felt by his many admirers around the world. We all miss him.

Robert I. Bowman, Academy Scientist Trustee, and Emeritus Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University.



LUIS BAPTISTA

Earthquake! Shake-Ups

If you haven't been to the *Earthquake!* exhibit recently, you'll notice some changes during your next visit. All of your favorites are still here. You'll still be able to share earthquake experiences with others on the stories board—it's just been relocated to a more visible location. You can still attempt to build a seismically sound structure on shake tables that put your design to the test; we're replacing the building blocks in this component to make the experience more realistic. Improved lighting will ease your experience with the computer interactives where you can learn how to minimize earthquake damage in your home.

We've also moved our 1906 earthquake artifacts to a more visible location at the entrance to the exhibit. See actual pieces from the Academy's pre-1906 collections that survived (more or less) the disaster. Included in the case are a fragment from a Mastoden upper jaw fossil and the bound minutes from the Academy Board of Trustees meetings from 1874 to 1879.

So re-acquaint yourself with *Earthquake!* You're in for a "moving" experience!



Exhibit preparators Bill Stagnaro and Mary Ball adjust a photographic mural at the entrance to the exhibit depicting 1906 earthquake damage.

PHOTO: DONG LIN

Coming soon Between Two Worlds: Traditional People of Vanuatu

Opens October 7

A collection of stunning photographs by naturalist David Becker offers a remarkably intimate view of life within a few communities of South Pacific islanders. Surrounded by the modern trappings of the 21st century, these families and individuals choose to live as ancient Melanesians did, close to nature and the spirit world of their ancestors.

Rural Traditions: A Day of the Dead

September 9 – November 5

In honor of Latino Heritage Month, the Academy presents *Rural Traditions: A Day of the Dead*, a temporary

exhibition on loan from the Mexican Museum. The exhibit documents the Day of the Dead festivities in rural México with 34 color photographs that capture the fanfare of the colorful ceremony as well as the emotional family bond behind the Day of the Dead.

The Day of the Dead, or "El Día de los Muertos," is an annual national holiday in México celebrated on November 2nd. The Day

of the Dead is a ritual time when the spirits of the dead are expected to visit the living and are honored guests for that night.

Rural Traditions: A Day of the Dead features photographs by Ruth Lechuga, Cristina Taccone, Joe Rodriguez, Antonio Turok and other artists from both the United States and México.



COURTESY OF THE MEXICAN MUSEUM



COURTESY OF THE MEXICAN MUSEUM

View of Cemetery, 1986

On Our Cover

In celebration of Latino Heritage Month, Renacer Folklórica de Bolivia will perform music and dances from Bolivia. See page 6 for more details.

Latino Heritage Month Celebration

Celebrate Latino Heritage Month at the California Academy of Sciences and discover the cultural and biological diversity of Latin America. All programs will be held in the Morrison Auditorium and are free to Academy members unless otherwise noted.

The Best of Latin Cinema

Join the California Academy of Sciences and Cine Acción for an evening of Latin cinema to view the best of contemporary Latino film and video from the United States with dynamic and rarely seen works from Latin

America. A reception in Earth and Space Hall will precede the screening.

September 8

6:30 pm Reception

8 pm Screening, Morrison Auditorium

\$3 members/\$6 non-members

(415) 750-7430 for information

The Academy is pleased to be an official co-presenter of the Cine Acción Eighth Annual Cine Acción Festival ¡Cine Latino! September 14 – 17 at the Palace of Fine

Arts, Roxie Cinema and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco and September 21 – 23 at the Fine Arts Cinema in Berkeley. Previous film festivals have honored legendary film and stage star, Rita Moreno and television actor Cheech Marin. All Academy members will receive a \$2 discount off admission to either the Roxie Cinema or Yerba Buena Center for the screenings. Please visit www.cineaccion.com or call (415) 553-8140 for more information.

Corn and Chilies: Staples of Mexican Cuisine

Mexican chef and food historian Agustín Gaytan will discuss ingredients, traditional cooking tools and techniques that date back to pre-Columbian México and are still in use today. His presentation will focus on two staple foods—corn and chilies—as he demonstrates the preparation of corn tortillas and a salsa of fresh and dried chilies. This is a special program in honor of Mexican Independence Day.

September 16 1 pm

Danza y Folklor Mexicano

Experience Mexican culture through a spectacular performance of regional dances from México by the internationally acclaimed group Los Lupeños de San José.

September 17 1 pm

Ethnopharmacopia of the Amazon

This class will focus on the ethnobotany of indigenous peoples of the Amazon region and their everyday uses of flora to treat illnesses and communicate with their gods.

September 18

7–9 pm Goethe Room

Members \$15/ Non-members \$20

Reservations required. Call (415) 750-7100

Traditional Music and Dance from Bolivia

Renacer Folklórico de Bolivia will offer a program of music and dances from various regions of Bolivia. The performers wear costumes handmade in Bolivia by specialized artisans.

September 30 1 pm

The Puma and Ocelot: Felines of the Americas



PHOTO: LEOPARDS, ETC.

Puma

Meet a live puma and an ocelot as we learn about their populations in Latin America and the relationship between these cats and ancient American civilizations.

October 1 11:30 am and 1:30 pm

Argentine Tango and Folklore

Enjoy a world class performance of Argentine tango, zamba and gato by Pampa Cortés, former director and dancer of the show *Forever Tango*, and his dance troupes.

October 15 1 pm

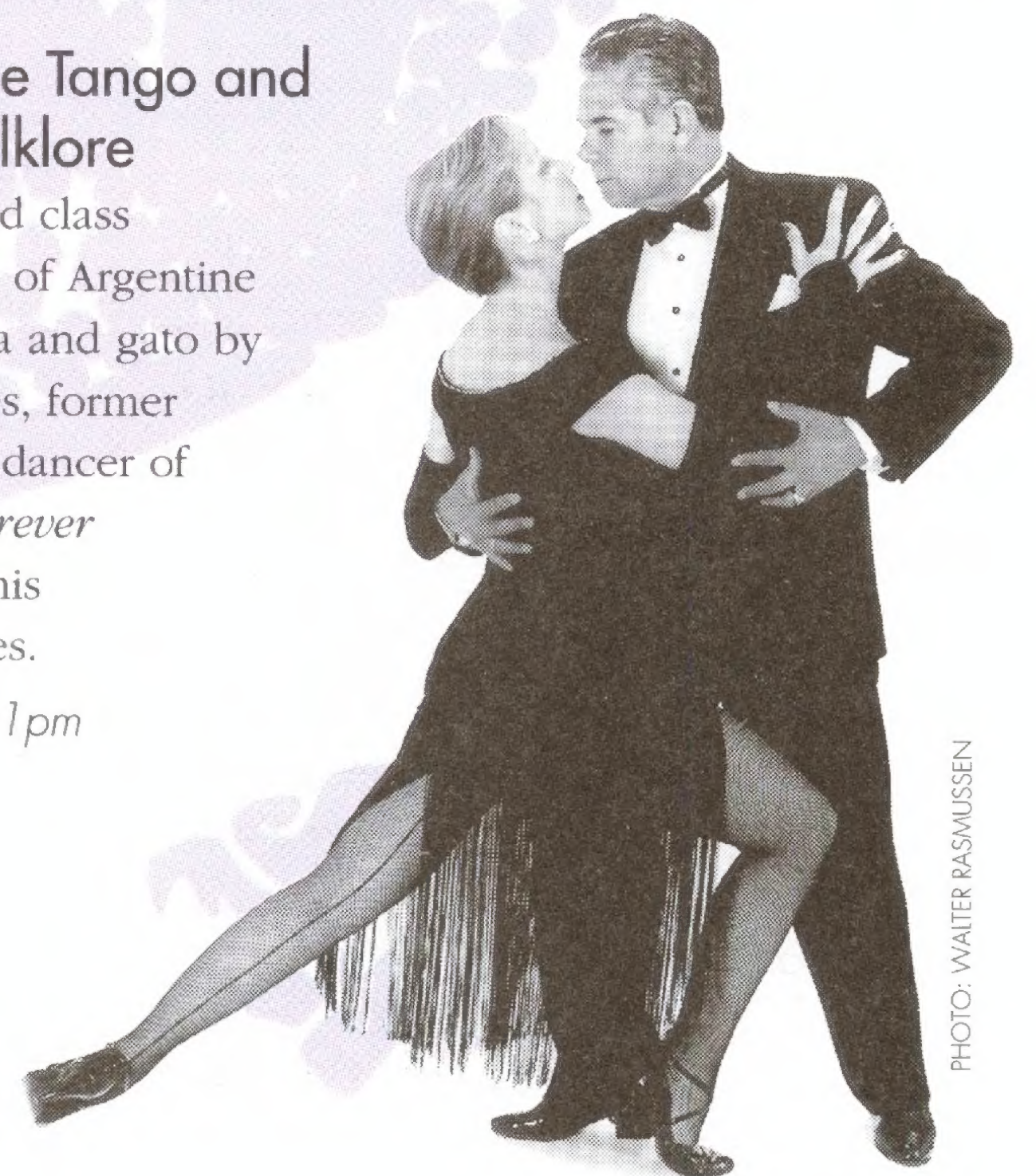


PHOTO: WALTER RASMUSSEN

Tango dancers

Public Programs

Explore the intriguing world of venom through new programs and live animal presentations that focus on the fangs and stingers of venomous animals from around the world. For the most up-to-date schedule, visit www.calacademy.org, or call (415) 750-7145. All programs are free for Academy members unless otherwise noted.



Venoms of the Sonoran Desert



PHOTO: MARK SEWARD

The Sonoran Desert rambles over some 120,000 square miles in two countries and five states, and is home to hundreds of species of insects and spiders, 130 species of

Gila Monster

mammals, 100 or so reptiles, 30 native freshwater fish, and more. Join curators from the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum for live animal presentations that reveal facts about desert venom from this unique region.

Venomous Reptilia

Meet a live gila monster, a night snake and several species of rattlesnakes while we explore their venomous nature and behavior.

August 24 – 27 11 am, 12:30 & 2 pm

Venomous Arthropoda

See a live giant desert centipede, and other venomous arthropods as we learn about their fangs, stingers and stunning adaptations.

August 24 – 27 11:30 am, 1 & 2:30 pm

Rattlesnakes Alive!

Get up close and personal with a live Northern Pacific rattlesnake from the Bay Area as naturalist Katie Colbert from the East Bay Regional Park District discusses their intriguing habits.

September 30 12:30 & 2 pm

Black Widows To Go

Drop by to make your own black widow using paper and other craft materials. Learn to tell the difference between black widows and other spiders in this activity.

August 7, September 11 12:30 pm
(Appropriate for ages 5 to 10)

Snake Mimicry

Meet live snakes and discover how some play tricks on

predators by changing their appearance and behavior.

Tuesdays in August 12:30 & 2:30 pm

Dangerous Liaisons

Experience the extraordinary world of venomous insects and spiders through a hands-on presentation by the Insect Discovery Lab from San Francisco State University.

Wednesdays in August 2 pm

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast?

Join us for a live tarantula presentation and discover the secrets behind the fangs of these oft-maligned arachnids.

August 5, 12, 19, Tuesdays in September 12:30 & 2:30 pm

Color Me Deadly

Venomous animals, such as the Sonoran coral snake, often use bright colors to advertise their lethal natures. Join us for a coloring adventure and take home your own colorful venomous creature.

August 14, September 18 12:30 pm

Studying Venomous Snakes

See a snake biologist in action and participate in an interactive presentation as we uncover the elusive world of venomous snakes.

Fridays in August & September 12:30 & 2:30 pm

Wasps and Bees

Find out about the success story of wasps and bees in nature and why venom provides them with the ultimate weapon for survival.

Thursdays in August & September 12:30 & 2:30 pm

Chasing Snakes in Burma

Special Members Lecture with Dr. Joe Slowinski

September 13 see description — page 4

Traditional Arts of the World

All programs take place at 1 pm on select Saturdays in the Morrison Auditorium, unless otherwise noted. Presentations are free after general museum admission, and no reservations are needed. For further information on these and other Traditional Arts Programs, contact Dr. Jennifer Michael in the Anthropology Department at (415) 750-7165. The Traditional Arts Program is funded by the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation.

August 5—Tales from the Enchanted Forest

Bay Area puppeteer Nick Barone will perform two original fairy tales written after the traditional style: "The Biggest Little Bug" and "The Grumpy Old Tree." Nick is also a master puppet builder, and after his performance he will give a "backstage" tour and discuss how his puppets were made and how they are manipulated. This program is suitable for all ages.

TRAD. ARTS, cont.

August 12—Early American Herbalism

Jeanne Rose, author of numerous books on the medicinal and therapeutic uses of herbs, will discuss the household practice of herbalism in colonial America. Her presentation will include a discussion of the workings of a copper alembic still, an apparatus often used today for distilling alcohols, essential oils, and waters.



Herbalist Jeanne Rose

Special Programs:

August 19 & 20—Hula Dance from Moloka'i

Moana Dudoit and her Hula Halau from Moloka'i return to San Francisco for two exclusive performances. The program includes classical *kahiko hula* and modern *'auwana hula*, as well as Moloka'i's own *hula ku'i* style, performed to the accompaniment of chants (*mele*) and live music on indigenous instruments. *This program is made possible by the generous support of Mr. Don Levy.*

Saturday at 3 pm and Sunday at 1 pm

August 19 & 26—Saami Traditional Arts

Artist Anna-Stina Svakko, visiting the Bay Area from Porjus, a traditional Saami village in northern Sweden, will present two programs on the folk arts of the Saami (or Sámi) people. Once known as the Lapps, the Saami are the indigenous people living in the northern reaches of Scandinavia, Finland, eastern Karelia, and the Kola peninsula. Historically, the material lives of certain groups of semi-nomadic Saami were centered around the reindeer, and many of their handicrafts, called *duodji*, make use of the hide, antlers, and sinews of this animal. Saami crafts are typically soft and portable, to accommodate a nomadic lifestyle. *Ms. Svakko's trip to the U.S. is funded by Finnair, The American-Scandinavian Foundation of the Bay Area, The Bay Area Swedish Club, and The Saami Báiki Foundation.*

August 19—Traditional Saami Clothing

Saami traditional outfits known as *gakti* are typically fashioned in bright primary colors and ornamented with embroidery and beadwork. This presentation will include a discussion of the form and elements of the *gakti* and a demonstration of the decorative arts used in its embellishment. Tin or pewter thread embroidery, for example, worked on leather or heavy boiled wool, serves to decorate purses and the bodices of traditional Saami clothing. Traditionally, the metal was repeatedly drawn through the artist's teeth to make it thin enough to work with.

August 26—Saami "Soft" Handicrafts

Saami handicrafts, called *duodji*, developed from the need to fashion practical items from available natural materials. Ribbon (band) weaving, for example, produced decorative bands used to snow-proof reindeer-hide shoes and cradleboards.

September 9—The King and the Storyteller

Bay Area storyteller, educator and folklorist Ruth Stotter offers up a feast of tales recounting a storyteller's efforts to amaze a king. Ruth illuminates her stories with origami, string games, and magic tricks. This program is suitable for all ages.

September 16—Corn and Chilies: Staples of Mexican Cuisine

See Latino Heritage Month Celebration — page 6

September 23—Moroccan Music & Storytelling

As a child in Morocco, Yassir Chadly learned to play a wide variety of traditional instruments, including the *oud* (a sort of lute), the *gimbri* (a stringed percussion instrument), the *dumbek* and the *bendeer* (drums). He will offer a program of traditional Moroccan music, along with a number of stories from the mystical Sufi tradition. This program is suitable for all ages.

September 30—Traditional Music and Dance from Bolivia

See Latino Heritage Month Celebration — page 6

Benjamin Dean Lecture Series

Astronomy in the New Millennium

The Fall 2000 Benjamin Dean Lecture Series will be looking forward to what we may be able to learn about our Universe during the coming millennium. Starting with the current explosion of information, our speakers will suggest how our views are changing, then lead us through possibilities in the future from a historic perspective, by applying a rigorous scientific viewpoint, and through the visionary imagination of the science fiction writer.

The Hubble Space Telescope: A Decade of Discovery

What is our current view of the Universe and how have our ideas developed? Astronomy is basically an observational science, and each new development in technology has greatly enhanced our understanding and changed our conceptions. We are in the midst of a burst of information being collected with new and improved instrumentation. For the past decade this progress has been led by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. With its launch in 1990, the Universe snapped into sharp focus, both visually and mentally in the minds of astronomers. Hubble's rapid series of discoveries has forever changed how we view the cosmos.

Each new discovery credited to the Hubble is announced by Ray Villard, the Public Information Manager for the Space Telescope Science Institute at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. In his talk on "The Hubble Space Telescope: A Decade of Discovery" Mr. Villard will summarize the history and suggest the future of discoveries made with the NASA's Hubble Space Telescope.

Mr. Villard will showcase Hubble's most spectacular images which have led to great discoveries including black holes, colliding galaxies, exploding stars, and bizarre objects at the edge of the Universe. He will share with us the stories behind the headlines, giving us a glimpse into how astronomers are using the Hubble to revolutionize our understanding of the Universe.

September 26

Mining the Sky: New Astronomy with a Virtual Observatory

Dr. Robert J. Brunner of CalTech

Tuesday October 17

Hyperspace, Time Machine, Wormholes, and the Theory of Everything

Dr. Michio Kaku of City College of New York

Tuesday November 7

All lectures are in the Morrison Planetarium at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$3.00 at the door, or call the Information Hotline: (415) 750-7141.

Morrison Planetarium

Take another look into the depths of night, discover the hidden secrets of our solar system, and find out how some present-day forms of Earth life COULD survive in outer space (and HAVE!)...

Join the many visitors who, since 1952, have marveled at the starry skies of San Francisco's classic indoor universe...and your Academy Members Passes admit you FREE OF CHARGE!

Sky Shows

The Living Universe

Opens September 15

Microfossils on Mars? Bacteria on the Moon? Find out how nature distributes and recycles the stuff of life throughout the cosmos and explore the fascinating ways that life endures on Earth...and possibly beyond!

September 15 – November 26

Weekdays: 2 pm Weekends: 2 & 3 pm

Into the Depths of Night

Through November 26

Double stars, extrasolar planets, nebulae, supernovae, galaxies... take a tour of the celestial sights visible in the Summer and Autumn skies. Discover how the far-flung wonders of the Universe connect to each other ... and to us!

August 1 – September 10

Weekdays: 2 pm Weekends: 2 & 3 pm

September 10 – November 26

Weekends: 1 pm

Solar System 2.0

Closes September 10

Does the Moon have water or an atmosphere? Are there any planets beyond Pluto? Is Pluto a planet? If you thought you knew all there was to know about the members of our solar system, come explore how new discoveries are revealing strange new facts about our corner of the Universe.

August 1 – September 4

Weekdays: 12:30 pm Weekends: 1 pm

September 5 – September 10

Weekends: 1 pm

Neighbors in Space

Ongoing

In this family show, the cosmic cartoon critter, Moon Mouse, leads an exploration of the Sun, Moon, and the planets of the solar system. *Neighbors in Space* is offered early in the day for the convenience of Members with younger children.

August 1 – September 1

Mon & Fri: 11:30 am Weekends: 12 pm

September 9 – no ending date

Weekends: 12 pm

Neighbors in Space will also be presented Tuesday through Thursday at 11:30 am from August 18 – September 4.

The Sky Tonight

Ongoing

A relaxing tour of the current night sky, focusing on constellations, visible planets, the phase of the Moon, and upcoming celestial events visible with the unaided eye. This is our most free-form presentation, where the sky is the "star of the show."

August 1 – September 1

Weekdays: 3:30 pm Weekends: 4 pm

September 15 – November 26

Weekends: 4 pm

Weekend schedule applies on Labor Day, Monday, September 4.

Schedules are subject to change. Additional shows will be added on the first Wednesday of each month, and for certain holidays. Please call (415) 750-7141 for recorded information and schedules.

Summer Lectures at the Academy

Wet Nursing, Daycare and Debates over Mother Love

Sarah Blaffer Hrdy
Emeritus Professor, UC Davis



PHOTO: JERRY BAUER

Sarah Blaffer Hrdy

Hrdy's recent book, *Mother Nature, A History of Mothers, Infants, and Natural Selection*, provides the framework for this illustrated lecture, in which she discusses new ways of understanding how and why mothers act the way they do. Hrdy addresses key issues such as how humankind's evolutionary history as a cooperative breeder has shaped maternal instincts in our species, and how this new way of looking

at mothers alters the way we interpret more recent human history. Hrdy provides a portrait of the selective forces that have shaped maternal behaviors, impulses and strategies over tens of thousands of years. Learn what these forces do and don't tell us about the nature of maternity.

August 29 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm
\$6 members/\$10 non-members
Book-signing immediately following the lecture

The Venoms Lecture Series

This lecture is offered in conjunction with the Academy's current exhibition, *Venoms: Striking Beauties*, and will be held in Morrison Auditorium at 7:30 pm. The exhibition will be open for viewing from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

Cnefarious Cnidarians: Aggressive Anemones and Stinging Jellyfish

Daphne Fautin
Professor of Biological Sciences, University of Kansas

Jellyfish belong to the animal group called Cnidaria (with a silent c). Jellyfish are associated with their ability to sting humans — with horrible consequences in some cases. Fautin discusses the function of the complex and highly effective nematocysts — the toxic, microscopic, harpoon-like structure that jellyfish, anemones, seafans, and other cnidarians use for protection and to obtain food.

August 22 (Tuesday)
\$6 members/\$10 non-members

The Marine Conservation Lecture Series

The California Academy of Sciences, The Commonwealth Club of California, and the Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conservation are pleased to present a new lecture series this fall. The series addresses issues about marine ecosystem conservation, marine contamination, population pressures,

fisheries management, and shark conservation.

Members: \$6 lecture/\$15 series of three
Non-members: \$10 lecture/\$25 series of three

Oceans and People: The Vision, The Reality

Sylvia A. Earle
Founder, Deep Ocean Exploration and Research (DOER)
Explorer-in-Residence, National Geographic Society

As human populations continue to grow around the world, so, too, do the pressures on the earth's natural resources. With almost three-quarters of the planet covered with water, the need to understand and conserve the health of our oceans becomes more and more critical. In a slide and video presentation, acclaimed oceanographer Sylvia Earle discusses several marine systems around the globe, addresses how these systems are being impacted by increasing human population growth, and suggests a variety of solutions.



PHOTO: NATALIE FOBES

Sylvia A. Earle

September 21 (Thursday) 7:30 pm
Morrison Auditorium, California Academy of Sciences

Upcoming Marine Conservation Lectures

Poisons and Pollutants and Pesticides, Oh My!

Susan L. Anderson
Associate Research Biologist, UC Davis
Pew Marine Conservation Fellow

Marla Cone
Environmental Writer, Los Angeles Times
Pew Marine Conservation Fellow

October 19 (Thursday) 6:30 pm
The Commonwealth Club of California
595 Market Street, San Francisco

Up to Our Necks in California Waters

Burr Heneman
Marine Conservation Policy Consultant
Pew Marine Conservation Fellow

John McCosker
Curator & Chair, Department of Aquatic Biology
California Academy of Sciences

November 15 (Wednesday)
Morrison Auditorium
California Academy of Sciences

Adult and Family Education

Flora of Mt. Lassen National Park

Seminar and Field Trip

Mt. Lassen, the southernmost outpost of the volcanic Cascades, is one of our least-visited national parks. Some of our prettiest mountain scenery, this is where the Cascade flora meet and mix with the northern Sierra. Observe the meadows, lakes and ponds, great conifer forests, and alpine wildflowers of this region, and discover rare flowers in special pockets along the Feather River. Learn to recognize the trees and shrubs, and the basics of keying wildflower families. Accommodation Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights are at the Mineral Lodge in Mineral, CA.

Glenn Keator

Seminar: August 2 (Wednesday) 7 – 8:30 pm

Field Trip: August 10 – 13 (2 pm Thursday – 2 pm Sunday)

\$395 members/\$420 non-members

(Includes accommodation. Does not include transportation and meals)

Biological Illustration

Workshop

Learn the basics and conventions for drawing natural forms in black and white, stressing observation, accuracy and craft rather than art. Explore the techniques of shaded pencil, ink — both stipple and line — coquille and scratchboards, and shading film while establishing the editorial requirements for publication. Students at any level of background experience will benefit from this workshop.

Charles Stasek

August 5, 12 and 19 (3 Saturdays) 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

\$125 members/\$140 non-members

Monterey Bay Wildlife Cruise

Field Trip

Join naturalist Greg Meyer for a cruise in the nation's newest marine sanctuary. Sea otters, seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins and thousands of seabirds live in the waters of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. This seven-hour cruise covers the wildlife-rich kelp beds and the deep waters of the

Monterey Bay Submarine Canyon. Blue Whales make an annual appearance in Monterey Bay, and this is the best time



Monterey Bay

PHOTO: SHERRY BAILLARD

to see them. Opportunities abound for spotting over 90 species of marine birds that visit the Bay, including shearwaters, murres and albatrosses.

Greg Meyer

August 19 (Saturday) 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

\$65 members/\$75 non-members

Limantour Natural Area

Field Trip

Join Dan Murphy for our fifth annual birding excursion to the edge of the Mount Vision burn area in Point Reyes National Seashore. The coast chaparral, riparian woodlands and marshes at the Limantour Natural Area were burned in the 1995 fire. Observe the dramatic recovery of this rich area while Murphy discusses the impact of the fire on the habitat and resident bird life. In the past, Great Horned Owls, adult male Summer Tanagers, White-tailed Kites and Purple Martins have been spotted. However, each year is different, which makes for an exciting outing.

Dan Murphy

August 26 (Saturday) 9 am – 2 pm

\$25 members/\$30 non-members

Fall Migration Along the San Mateo Coast

Field Trip

The rocky shore, freshwater ponds and open fields of Año Nuevo State Reserve are excellent habitats to see a variety of birds. Late summer is a peak time for shorebirds migrating from arctic nesting grounds to more southerly destinations, giving good opportunities to study them. Sea lions and elephant seals share the habitat and are hard to ignore. Join Wimpfheimer in a three-mile walk at the preserve, followed by a visit to the marshes at Pescadero, where a variety of herons, raptors and shorebirds feed and rest. Spot numerous migrant warblers and other landbirds in the riparian thickets and redwood canyons.

David Wimpfheimer

September 9 (Saturday) 9 am – 4 pm

\$30 members/\$35 non-members

Discover Tomales Point

Field Trip

Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore is a magical place for a family outing. Join Parish on a one-mile walk filled with exploration and wonder. Make a pair of “spyglasses” and use them to focus on the diverse birds, wildlife and landscapes along the trail. Look high and low for flowers; catch a glimpse of a jackrabbit or rare Tule Elk. Open to families with children three to five years old.

Ginger Parish

September 10 (Sunday) 10 am – 12:30 pm

\$20 adult/\$15 child, members

\$25 adult/\$20 child, non-members

Bernard Osher Foundation Grant

Those who have ever enjoyed free admission to the California Academy of Sciences on the first Wednesday of each month have the Bernard Osher Foundation to thank. For ten years the Bernard Osher Foundation has provided support to open the doors without admission fees one day each month. This year, the Osher gift increased to \$100,000, which will provide for additional Academy staffing to make our visitors' experiences even better.

The Wednesday Free Day program is a component of the Academy's commitment to community outreach. It is part of the Academy's mission to provide scientific educational opportunities to the widest possible audience. Making the Golden Gate Park facility more available is keeping within this spirit.

The Academy is appreciative of the Bernard Osher Foundation for their long history of generosity for the monthly Free Day program and many other projects at the Academy. Highlights include sponsorship of the exhibition "My Tibet," the Visiting Educators Program, the Bernard Osher Molecular Laboratory, and two Supervans to help bring the Academy's programs out to California schools. Thanks!

Mark your calendars

for the Academy's 9th Annual Halloween Party

October 27, 2000.

New Donor Circle Members

January through April 2000: \$125 to \$999

Many thanks to the following new donors, and those who have increased their support of the Academy in the last few months.

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Academy Travel Program 2001

Maya Sculptural Odyssey

January 9 – 22

Tour Leaders: June Anderson and Richard Hansen

Among the Great Whales: Baja California and the Sea of Cortez

Aboard the *Sea Bird*

January 19 – 27

Tour Leader: Bob Van Syoc

New Zealand by Land and Sea

Aboard the *Clipper Odyssey*

February 17 – March 1

Tour Leaders: Charles Griswold and Teresa Meikle

Snorkeling Safari in Bonaire

March 3 – 10, 2001

Tour Leader: Gary Williams

Indian Ocean Odyssey: South Africa, Madagascar and the Seychelles

Aboard the *Hanseatic*

March 17 – April 4

Tour Leader: Terry Gosliner

Spain and the Canary Islands

May

Tour Leader: Frank Almeda

Lapland: Exploring Europe's Arctic Wilderness

June 2 – 15

Tour Leaders: Dave and Bev Kavanaugh

Labrador Sea and Hudson Bay

Aboard *Le Levant*

August 2 – 14

Tour Leaders: Dave and Bev Kavanaugh

Anthropological and Wildlife Expedition to Romania

September 11 – 23

Tour Leader: Sam Taylor

Lewis and Clark

Aboard the *Sea Bird*

September 24 – 30

Tour Leaders: John and Pam McCosker

Fiji, Tonga, and Cook Islands

Aboard the *World Discoverer*

October 3 – 19

Tour Leader: Tom Daniel

China and the Silk Road

October 5 – 23

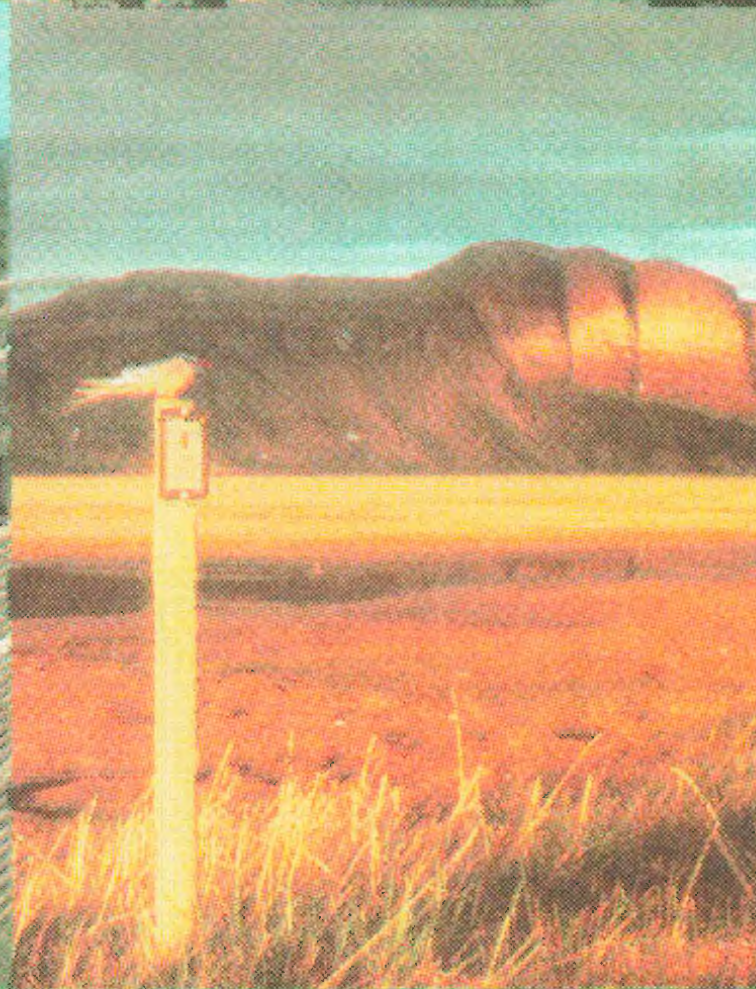
Tour Leaders: Nina Jablonski and George Chaplin

For more information on these tours, please call the Academy
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JOEL SIMON

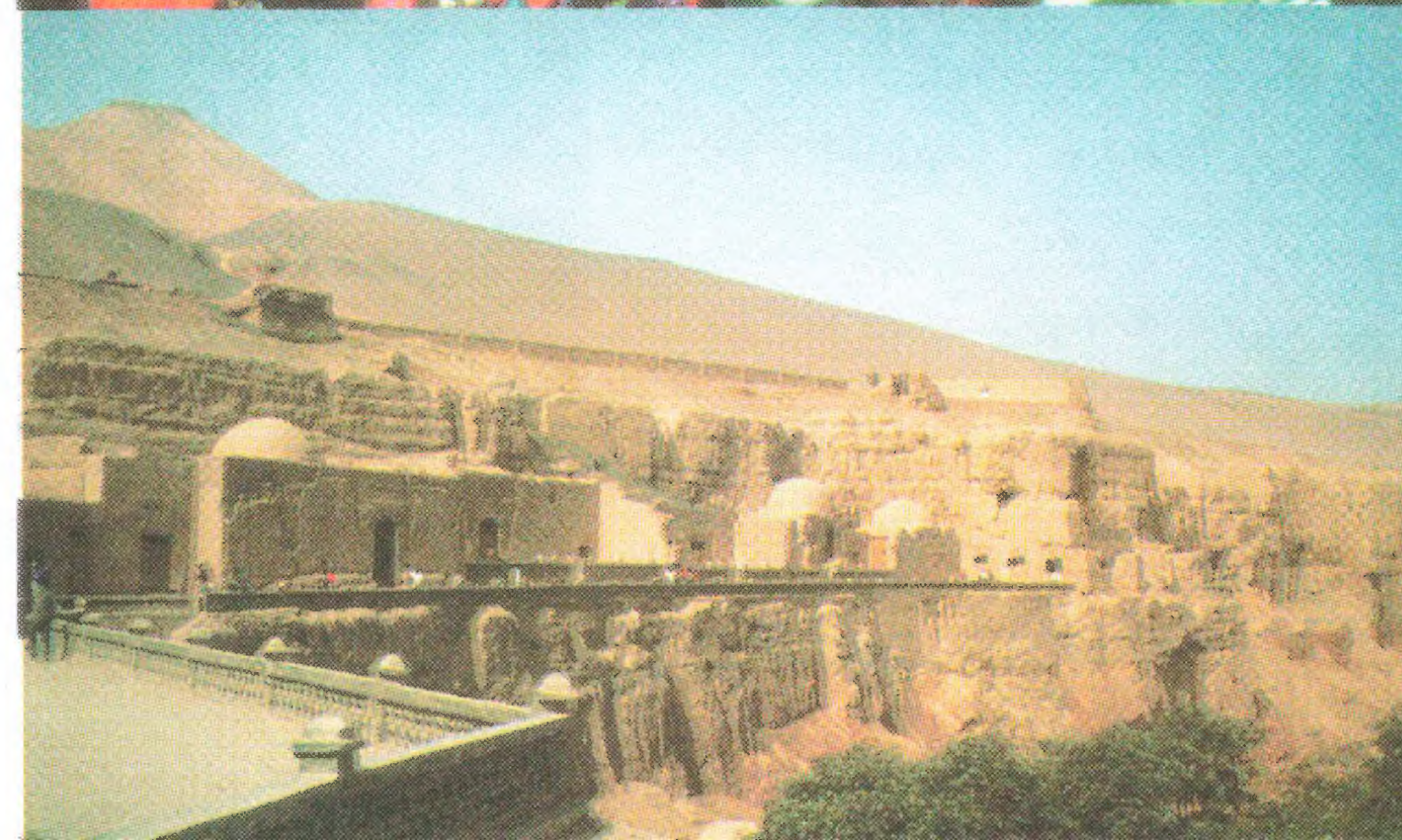
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Oceans and People	___ X\$6	___ X\$10	= ___
Marine Conservation lecture series (3)	___ X\$15	___ X\$25	= ___

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FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS

	Qty/Members	Qty/Non-members	Total
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Biological Illustration	___ X\$125	___ X\$140	= ___
Monterey Bay Wildlife Cruise	___ X\$65	___ X\$75	= ___
Limantour Natural Area	___ X\$25	___ X\$30	= ___
Fall Migration Along the San Mateo Coast	___ X\$30	___ X\$35	= ___
Discover Tomales Point			
Adult	___ X\$20	___ X\$25	= ___
Children	___ X\$15	___ X\$20	= ___

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- ☐ I have already provided for the Academy in my will or other estate plans.

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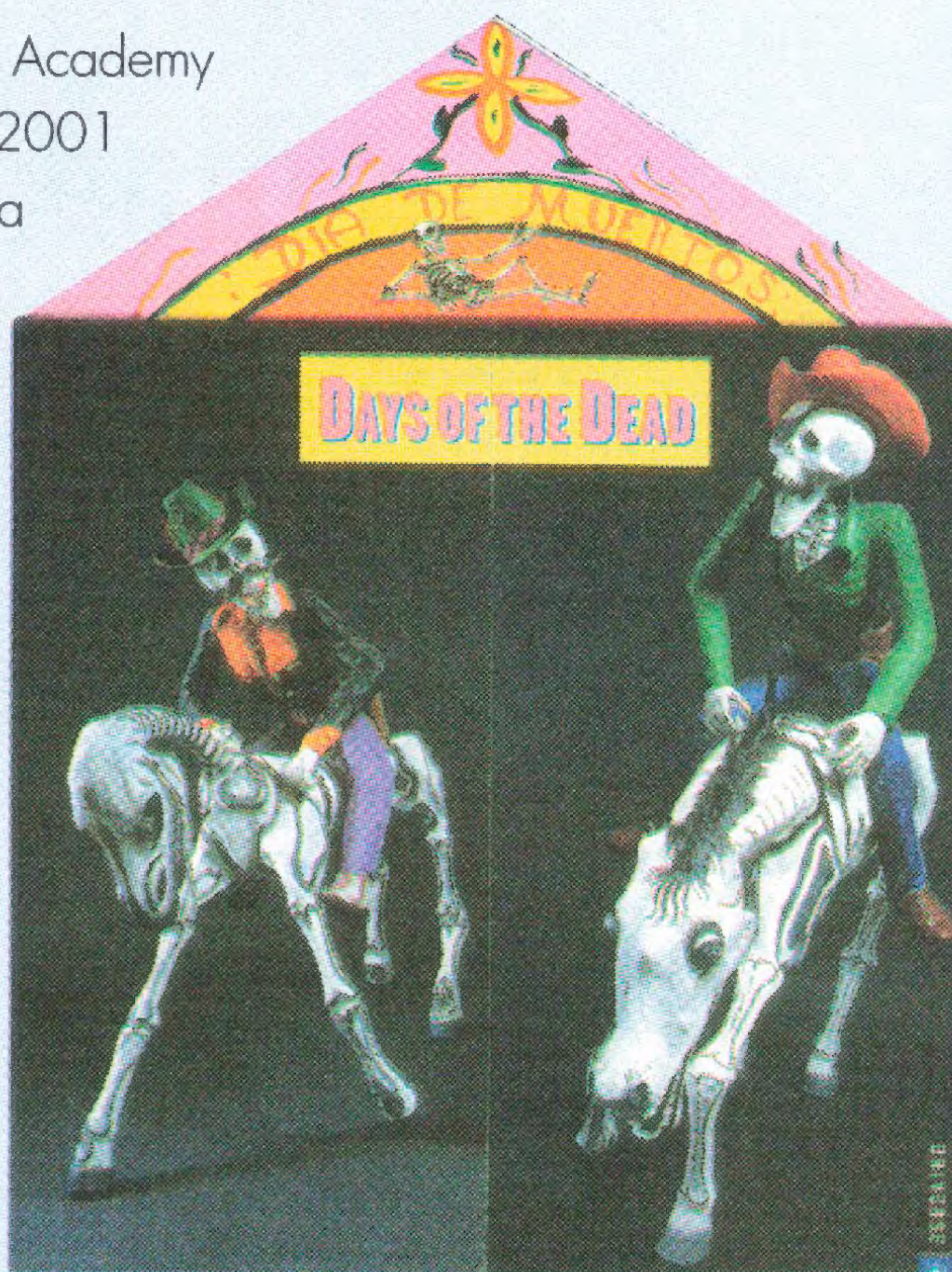
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Day of the Dead Calendars

Printed exclusively for the California Academy of Sciences, the cleverly-designed 2001 Day of the Dead calendar offers a colorful way to remember everything from birthdays and anniversaries to deadlines.

The Day of the Dead, or El Día de los Muertos, is a ritualistic holiday in México when the spirits of the dead are expected to visit the living and are honored guests for that night.

Come to the Academy Store where members always receive a 10% discount.



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In Retrospect...

By Academy Archivist Michele Welck

50 Years Ago

September 1950 – “*Science in Action*” is the title of a live television show produced by the California Academy of Sciences and sponsored by the American Trust Company, which will take to the air September 21. On that date the first of a series of weekly Thursday evening programs will be telecast on KGO-TV, channel 7, from 7:00 to 7:30.

Announcing the new show, Dr. Robert C. Miller, Director of the Academy, states: “This television series, created and presented by professional scientists, will bring the absorbing drama of nature and science to the television audience, with subjects ranging from the grassroots jungle in your own back yard to the newest developments in atomic research.”

The first telecast, titled ‘Nature’s Warfare Experts,’ will show the methods of offense and defense used by animals in their struggle for existence. Living tanks, harpooners, artillery, and chemical warfare experts will parade before the cameras.

Tom Groody, member of the Academy’s scientific staff and host-narrator of the television series, pioneered the telecasting of science in San Francisco. Last year he appeared

weekly as a guest on Station KPIX, introducing seals, sharks, sea horses, porcupines, an octopus, and other animals to an eager audience. The large volume of fan mail led Academy officials to encourage the development of a full half-hour science show.”

“*Science in Action*” became a popular, award-winning, syndicated show that was produced until 1966. Films of episodes were also available for use in the classroom. Dr. Tom Groody was the first host, and in 1952 Dr. Earl S. Herald, Superintendent of the Steinhart Aquarium, began appearing in

that role. Guest scientists included Academy curators, UC faculty, and Nobel Laureates. Though we no longer have our own TV program, you can still see Academy staff making appearances before local, national, and worldwide television and film audiences.



PHOTO: SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/CAS LIBRARY

Dr. R. C. Miller and Dr. Groody, as seen in “*Science in Action*” episode #8, “Sea Shore Life,” which aired on November 9, 1950.

Save The Date

The Quiet Revolution In Investing

October 17

Attend this seminar that explores the fundamental changes that are occurring in the investment world. These changes are revolutionizing the nature of investment products and the ways that people should invest in the future. The seminar will take place at the Academy from 4 – 6 pm and will feature noted speaker Ed Osborn, Chief Investment Partner of the investment management firm of Bingham, Osborn, and Scarborough. Please contact the Development Office at (415) 750-7210 or email development@calacademy.org for further registration information.

August

1 Tuesday

Snake Mimicry (p. 7)

2 Wednesday

Dangerous Liaisons (p. 7)

3 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

4 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

5 Saturday

Tales from the Enchanted Forest (p. 7)
Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)

7 Monday

Black Widows To Go (p. 7)

8 Tuesday

Snake Mimicry (p. 7)

9 Wednesday

No Storm is Perfect (p. 4)
Dangerous Liaisons (p. 7)

10 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

11 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

12 Saturday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)
Early American Herbalism (p. 8)

14 Monday

Color Me Deadly (p. 7)

15 Tuesday

Snake Mimicry (p. 7)

16 Wednesday

Dangerous Liaisons (p. 7)

17 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

18 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

19 Saturday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)
Traditional Saami Clothing (p. 8)

20 Sunday

Hula Dance from Moloka'i (p. 8)

22 Tuesday

Snake Mimicry (p. 7)
Cnefarious Cnidarians (p. 10)

23 Wednesday

Dangerous Liaisons (p. 7)

24 Thursday

Venomous Reptilia (p. 7)
Venomous Arthropoda (p. 7)
Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

25 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)
Venomous Reptilia (p. 7)
Venomous Arthropoda (p. 7)

26 Saturday

Venomous Reptilia (p. 7)
Venomous Arthropoda (p. 7)
Saami "Soft" Handicrafts (p. 8)

27 Sunday

Venomous Reptilia (p. 7)
Venomous Arthropoda (p. 7)

29 Tuesday

Snake Mimicry (p. 7)
Wet Nursing, Daycare and Debates over Mother Love (p. 10)

30 Wednesday

Dangerous Liaisons (p. 7)

31 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

September

1 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

5 Tuesday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)

7 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

8 Friday

The Best of Latin Cinema (p. 6)
Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

9 Saturday

Rural Traditions: A Day of the Dead OPENS
The King and the Storyteller (p. 8)

11 Monday

Black Widows To Go (p. 7)

12 Tuesday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)

13 Wednesday

Chasing Snakes in Burma (p. 4)

14 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

15 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

16 Saturday

Corn and Chilies: Staples of Mexican Cuisine (p. 6)

17 Sunday

Danza y Folklor Mexicano (p. 6)

18 Monday

Ethnopharmacopia of the Amazon (p. 6)
Color Me Deadly (p. 7)

19 Tuesday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)

21 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)
Oceans and People (p. 10)

22 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

23 Saturday

Moroccan Music & Storytelling (p. 8)

26 Tuesday

Tarantulas: Beauty or Beast? (p. 7)
Hubble Space Telescope (p. 9)

28 Thursday

Wasps and Bees (p. 7)

29 Friday

Studying Venomous Snakes (p. 7)

30 Saturday

Traditional Music and Dance from Bolivia (p. 6)
Rattlesnakes Alive! (p. 7)

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